

CLASSIFICATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 28 October 1955

SUBJECT Effects of Sheet Metal Shortage on Industries

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DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Almost all East German production of transformers and other electrical devices which have to be housed in oil-proof containers has come to a halt. The enterprises especially affected are VEB Transformer-Sedlitz, VEB Transformatoren- und Roentgenwerk (TRARQ) Dresden, VEB Transformatorenwerk "Karl Liebknecht", Berlin-Oberschoeneweide. Production of oil-proof containers is currently impossible because of the lack of deep-draw sheet metal. DIA has informed East German ministries and factories that Soviet imports expected to arrive in the fourth quarter of 1955. East Germany will not be able to produce any more deep-draw sheet metal for its own consumption in 1955. Deep-draw sheet metal of 1.5 mm. and 2 mm. thickness has been completely used up. The stockpiles of these dimensions have already been allocated to the USSR.
2. VEB Kaliwerk Stassfurt will not be able to deliver any more carbide for export to the USSR because the plate which is necessary for the production of the airtight drums in which the carbide is shipped is not available. It is estimated that about 800 metric tons of carbide would be necessary to construct enough drums to fulfill export commitments.
3. The chief of the Main Administration for Electric Machine Construction in the East German Ministry for Heavy Machine Construction, Kurt Friedel, has ordered direct negotiations to be taken up with the import station at Frankfurt/Oder, so that the Ministry can be informed as soon as shipments arrive and can eliminate the bureaucratic tie-ups for which the DIA has been responsible in the past.
4. East German transformer and electrical construction enterprises are also awaiting the delivery of transformers with a maximum wattage loss of 1.1 watts per kilogram. This type of transformer was formerly imported from West Germany, but since the East German Government increased transportation taxes on the Autobahn, East Germany has been unable to obtain a transportbegleitscheine for this type of transformer. The shortage of transformers will seriously hamper East Germany in fulfilling its export contracts for transformers with the USSR, Sweden, Finland, and all non-satellite countries, since all these countries demand that only Western transformers be used in the transformers they purchase.

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1. Almost all East German production of transformers and other electrical devices which have to be housed in oil-proof containers has come to a halt. The enterprises especially affected are VEB Sachsenwerk Nieder-Sedlitz, VEB Transformatoren- und Roentgenwerk (TRARO) Dresden, and VEB Transformatorenwerk "Karl Liebknecht", Berlin-Oberschoeneweide. Production of oil-proof containers is currently impossible because of the lack of deep-drawn sheet. DIA has informed East German ministries and factories that Soviet imports are expected to arrive in the fourth quarter of 1955. East Germany will not be able to produce any more deep-drawn sheet for its own consumption in 1955. Deep-drawn [redacted], 1.5 mm. and 2 mm. thick has been completely used up, and a [redacted] of these dimensions have already been allocated to factories.
2. VEB Kaliwerk Stassfurt will not be able to deliver any more carbide for export to the USSR because the plate which is necessary for the production of the airtight drums in which the carbide must be shipped is not available. It is estimated that about 800 metric tons of sheet would be necessary to construct enough drums to fulfill export commitments.
3. The chief of the Main Administration for Electric Machine Construction in the East German Ministry for Heavy Machine Construction, Kurt Friedel, has ordered direct negotiations taken up with the import railway station at Frankfurt/Oder, so that the Ministry can be informed as soon as sheet shipments arrive and can eliminate the bureaucratic tie-ups for which the DIA has been responsible in the past..
4. East German transformer and electrical device construction enterprises are also awaiting the delivery of transformer sheet with a maximum wattage loss of 1.1 watts per kilogram. This sheet was formerly imported from West Germany, but since the East German Government increased transportation taxes on the Autobahn, East Germany has been unable to obtain any Warenbegleitscheine for this type of sheet. The shortage of transformer sheet will seriously hamper East Germany in fulfilling its export contracts for transformers with the USSR, Sweden, Finland and all non-satellite countries, since all these countries demand that only Western sheet be used in the transformers they purchase.

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